

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/606,106

Examiner

Blaise L Mouttet

Applicant(s)

JEANMAIRE, DAVID L.

Art Unit

2853

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the communication of June 25, 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-39.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 25 June 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
  - \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
  - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the Examiner.
  - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                 | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____.   |
| 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No. _____ | 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                    |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material           | 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other   |

### **Additional Prior Art**

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Yamada US 4,068,241 discloses an inkjet printing apparatus with a droplet deflector producing a flow of gas to separate ink droplets of different volumes as shown and described in relation to figure 12. Yamada fails to disclose a cleaning station formed from the drop deflector, an ink droplet forming mechanism for ejecting droplets of a same volume in succession or that the droplet forming mechanism includes a heater.

Duffield et al. US 4,914,522 discloses using a deflective air flow means in an ink spray device to facilitate cleaning of the spray head (column 4, lines 11-17). Duffield et al. fails to disclose an ink droplet forming mechanism adapted to create different ink droplet volumes.

Jeanmaire et al. US 6,588,888 discloses an inkjet printing apparatus in which a droplet deflector producing a flow of gas separates ink droplets of a smaller volume from ink droplets of a larger volume as shown and described in relation to figure 4. Jeanmaire et al. fails to disclose a cleaning station formed from the drop deflector.

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The primary reason for the indication of the allowability of claims 1-39 is the inclusion therein, in combination as currently claimed, of the limitation of the cleaning

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station formed at least in part from said droplet deflector for providing a flow of fluid over said printhead to clean and maintain said printhead. This limitation is found in claims 1-39 and is neither disclosed nor taught by the prior art of record, alone or in combination.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### **Contact Information**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Blaise Mouttet who may be reached at telephone number is (703) 305-3007 (before February 11, 2004) or (571) 272-2150 (after February 11, 2004). The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Meier, Art Unit 2853, can be reached at (703) 308-4896. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Blaise Mouttet January 7, 2004

BM 1/7/2004

*Grantley Stephen*  
*Primary Examiner*  
*1/11/04*